(a) whether there is any specific policy for regulating subsidised power allocation to export oriented units; and

(b) whether there is any monitoring agency to oversee the functioning of these units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) and (b) The allocation of power from Central Generating Stations to 100 per cent Export Oriented ferro-Alloys Units or Units with furnaces totally earmarked for export purposes is made on the basis of the following criteria:

(i) The cost of electricity should exceed 35% of the total cost of production.

(ii) The tariff payable will be the rate applicable for Central Generating Station from which power is allocated plus the wheeling charges prescribed by Power Grid/State electricity Board.

A monitoring system has been introduced to assess the requirement of power based on consumption norms and volume of exports.

Branches of RRBs in Rural and Backward Areas of North Eastern

*474. DR. B.B. DUTTA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) the number of braches of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) functioning in North Eastern States, particularly in rural and backward areas;

(b) the amount of loans disbursed by them during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the percentage of such loans in comparison to total deposits in banks during the said period;

(d) whether Government propose to open more branches of RRBs during 1997-98; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) (a) The details of branches of the Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) functioning in North Eastern States (NES), including branches in rural, semi-urban and urban areas, are given at statement I. (*See* below).

(b) and (c) The details of loans disbursed by RRBs in NES and percentage of loans disbursed to outstanding deposits for the years 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 are furnished at statement-II (*See* below)

(d) and (e) It is left to the judgement of the individual banks to assess the need for opening additional branches within their service area. After obtaining the approval of the Board of Directors, the banks have to approach Reserve Bank of India (RBI), through National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD), for grant of permission for opening new branches. As reported by NABARD, Pragjyotish Gaonlia Bank in Assam has applied, in November, 1996, for opening three new branches at Lakhipur, Krishnai and Dhopdhara. The matter is under correspondence between NABARD and the RRB. No other proposal for opening of new branches has been received by NABARD from any other RRB in the North Eastern States.

Statement-I

Details of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) operating in the North Eastern States

Sl.	States	Number of RRBs	Number of branches			total
			Rural	Semi-urban	Urban	total
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	19	—	—	19
2.	Assam	5	346	48	10	404
3.	Manipur	1	21	5	3	29
4.	Meghalaya	1	47	3	1	51
5.	Mizoram	1	47	4	3	54
6.	Nagaland	1	6	2	—	8
7.	Tripura	1	75	10	5	90
	Total	11	561	72	22	655

Statement-II

State-wise details of loans disbursed and percentage of loans disbursed to outstanding deposits, during the last three years, in respect of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) in the North Eastern States (N.E.S.)

Sl.	States	Loans disbursed (Data Provisional) (Rs. in lacs)			% of loans issued to out-standing deposits		
		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	103.21	84.07	182.86	16.43	9.43	14.94
2.	Assam	1079.78	1628.78	3157.99	4.99	5.96	8.78
3.	Manipur	29.15	39.83	107.26	7.52	8.05	13.06
4.	Meghalaya	303.39	245.00	427.80	5.97	5.48	6.87
5.	Mizoram	54.72	263.09	289.49	2.74	10.48	10.22
6.	Nagaland	2.21	4.16	15.34	1.36	2.63	6.27
7.	Tripura	310.41	137.77	212.46	4.13	1.36	1.74
	Total	1882.87	2402.70	4393.20	5.03	5.23	7.38